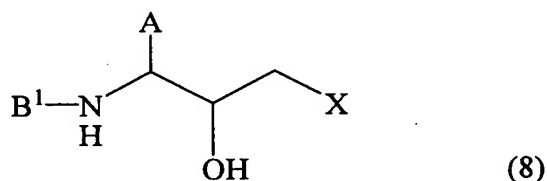


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

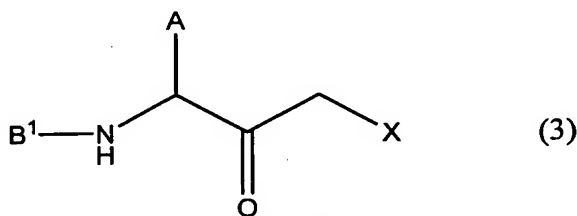
Claims 1 – 12 (Canceled).

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A process for producing N-protected  $\beta$ -aminoalcohols of following general formula (8), or a salt thereof:



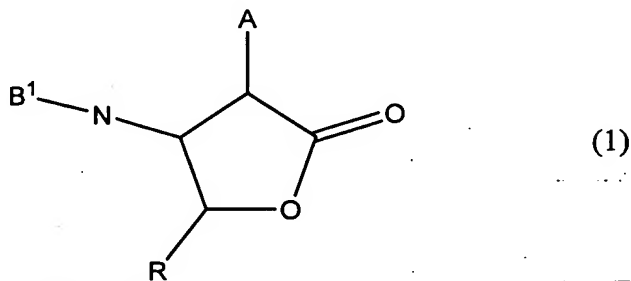
wherein A represents an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, aryl group having 6 to 15 carbon atoms or aralkyl group having 7 to 20 carbon atoms, ~~or a group corresponding thereto which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton~~ an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton, an aryl group having 6 to 15 carbon atoms which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton, or an aralkyl group having 7 to 20 carbon atoms which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton; B<sup>1</sup> represents a protecting group for the amino group; and X represents a halogen atom,

which comprises ~~the steps of~~ producing an N-protected  $\alpha$ -aminohalomethyl ketone of general formula (3), or a salt thereof by the process of claim 1,



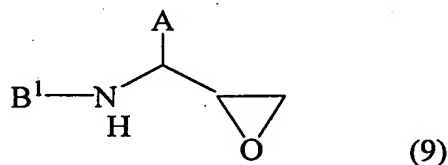
wherein A, B<sup>1</sup>, and X are as defined above, and then reducing this ketone, wherein said producing an N-protected  $\alpha$ -aminohalomethyl ketone of formula (3) comprises:

reacting a 3-oxazolidin-5-one derivative of the following formula (1) with a halomethyl lithium to produce a reaction product:



wherein R represents an unsubstituted or substituted aryl group or lower alkyl group, or a hydrogen atom, and A and B¹ are as defined above;  
and then treating the reaction product with an acid.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A process for producing N-protected  $\beta$ -aminoepoxides of following general formula (9):

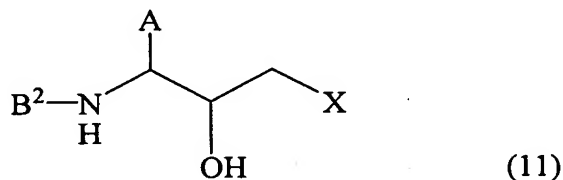


wherein A represents an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, aryl group having 6 to 15 carbon atoms or aralkyl group having 7 to 20 carbon atoms, ~~or a group corresponding thereto which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton~~  
an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton, an aryl group having 6 to 15 carbon atoms which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton, or an aralkyl group having 7 to 20 carbon atoms which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton; and B¹ represents a protecting group for the amino group,

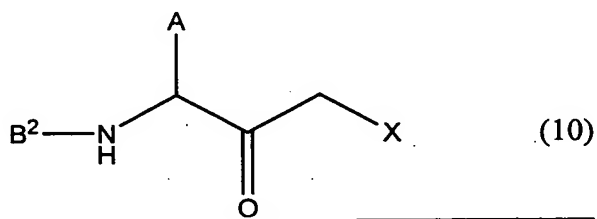
which comprises ~~the steps of~~ producing an N-protected  $\beta$ -amino alcohol of ~~general~~ formula (8) by the process of claim 13, and then treating this alcohol with a base.

Claim 15 (Canceled)

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A process for producing N-protected  $\beta$ -aminoalcohols of following ~~general~~ formula (11):

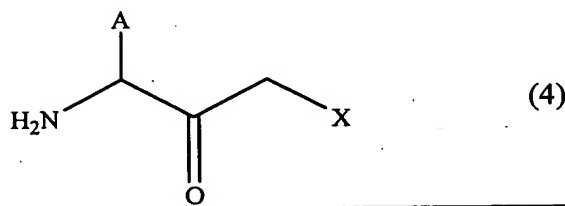


wherein A represents an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, aryl group having 6 to 15 carbon atoms or aralkyl group having 7 to 20 carbon atoms, ~~or a group corresponding thereto which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton~~  
an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton, an aryl group having 6 to 15 carbon atoms which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton, or an aralkyl group having 7 to 20 carbon atoms which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton; B<sup>2</sup> represents a protecting group for the amino group; and X represents a halogen atom, which comprises ~~the steps of~~ producing an N-protected  $\alpha$ -aminohalomethyl ketone of ~~general~~ formula (10); ~~by the process of claim 15,~~

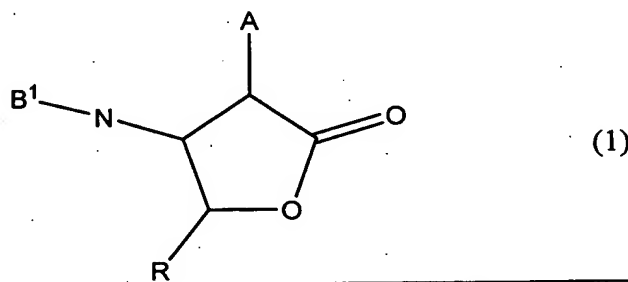


wherein A, B<sup>2</sup>, and X are as defined above, and then reducing this ketone, wherein said producing N-protected  $\alpha$ -aminohalomethyl ketone of the following formula (10) comprises:

producing an  $\alpha$ -aminohalomethyl ketone of the formula (4):



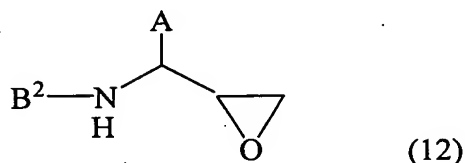
wherein A and X are as defined above, or a salt thereof, by reacting a 3-oxazolidin-5-one derivative of the following formula (1) with a halomethyl lithium to produce a reaction product:



wherein R represents an unsubstituted or substituted aryl group or lower alkyl group, or a hydrogen atom, B<sup>1</sup> represents a protecting group for the amino group, and A is as defined above;

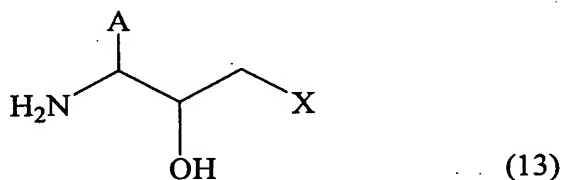
treating the reaction product with an acid; and  
then protecting the amino group thereof.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A process for producing N-protected  $\beta$ -aminoepoxides of following ~~general~~ formula (12):



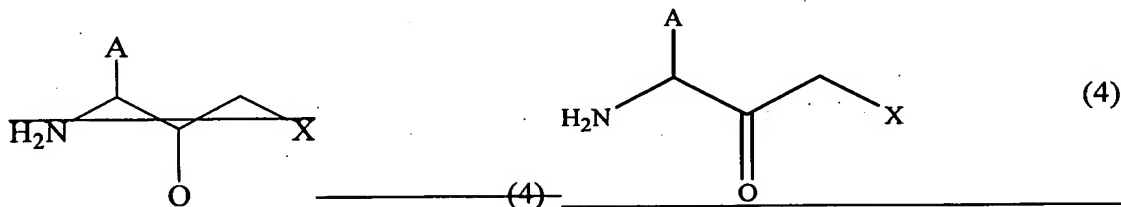
wherein A represents an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, aryl group having 6 to 15 carbon atoms or aralkyl group having 7 to 20 carbon atoms, ~~or a group corresponding thereto which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton~~ an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton, an aryl group having 6 to 15 carbon atoms which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton, or an aralkyl group having 7 to 20 carbon atoms which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton; and B<sup>2</sup> represents a protecting group for the amino group; ~~and X represents a halogen atom, by which comprises the steps of producing an~~ N-protected  $\beta$ -amino alcohol of ~~general~~ formula (11) by the process of claim 16, and then treating this alcohol with a base.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A process for producing  $\beta$ -aminoalcohols of following ~~general~~ formula (13), or a salt thereof:



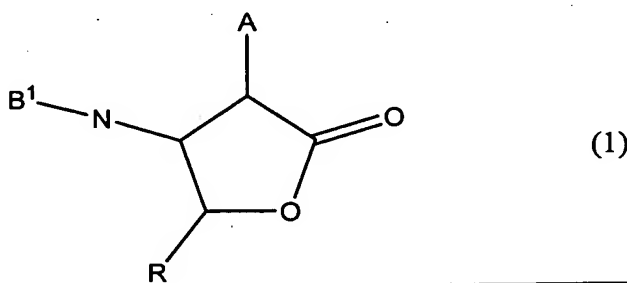
wherein A represents an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, aryl group having 6 to 15 carbon atoms or aralkyl group having 7 to 20 carbon atoms, ~~or a group corresponding thereto which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton~~ an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton, an aryl group having 6 to 15 carbon atoms which contains

a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton, or an aralkyl group having 7 to 20 carbon atoms which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton; and X represents a halogen atom, or salts thereof, by which comprises the steps of producing an  $\alpha$ -aminohalomethyl ketone of general formula (4):



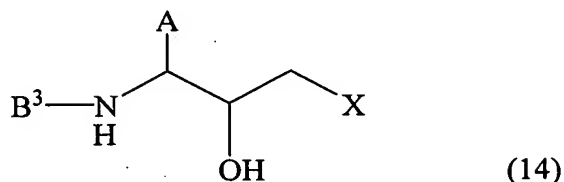
wherein A and X are as defined above, or a salt thereof ~~by the process of claim 1~~, and then reducing this ketone, wherein said producing an  $\alpha$ -aminohalomethyl ketone of formula (4) comprises:

reacting a 3-oxazolidin-5-one derivative of the following formula (1) with a halomethyl lithium to produce a reaction product:



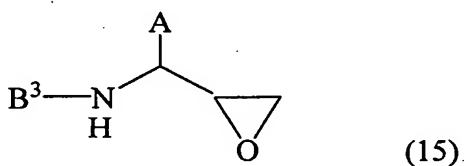
wherein R represents an unsubstituted or substituted aryl group or lower alkyl group, or a hydrogen atom, and A and B<sup>1</sup> are as defined above;  
and then treating the reaction product with an acid.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): A process for producing N-protected  $\beta$ -aminoalcohols of following ~~general~~ formula (14):



wherein A represents an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, aryl group having 6 to 15 carbon atoms or aralkyl group having 7 to 20 carbon atoms, ~~or a group corresponding thereto which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton~~ an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton, an aryl group having 6 to 15 carbon atoms which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton, or an aralkyl group having 7 to 20 carbon atoms which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton; B<sup>3</sup> represents a protecting group for the amino group; and X represents a halogen atom, which comprises ~~the steps of producing a β - aminoalcohol of general formula (13) or a salt thereof by the process of claim 18, and then protecting the amino group thereof with a protecting group.~~

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): A process for producing N-protected β - aminoepoxides of following ~~general~~ formula (15):



wherein A represents an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, aryl group having 6 to 15 carbon atoms or aralkyl group having 7 to 20 carbon atoms, ~~or a group corresponding thereto which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton~~ an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton, an aryl group having 6 to 15 carbon atoms which contains

a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton, or an aralkyl group having 7 to 20 carbon atoms which contains a hetero atom in the carbon skeleton; and B<sup>3</sup> represents a protecting group for the amino group,

by which comprises ~~the steps of~~ producing an N-protected  $\beta$ -amino alcohol of ~~general~~ formula (14) by the process of claim 19, and then treating this alcohol with a base.

Claim 21 – 22 (Canceled)



SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-12, 15, 21, and 22 were previously canceled.

Claims 13, 14, and 16-20 have been amended.

The amendment of Claims 13, 14, and 16-20 are supported by Claims 1-23 as originally filed.

No new matter has been entered by the present amendment.